

REMARKS

In response to the rejections of the claims as set forth in the above-identified Office Action, Applicant has amended those claims in a manner which is believed sufficient to place the application in condition for allowance. In this regard, independent Claims 1, 18, and 21, are now directed to a recording apparatus which is controlled to record on a recording medium a predetermined value, irrespective of recording addresses where image data are recorded and other than a recording end address, in an end address area of management data in accordance with a recording instruction (e.g., Fig. 6, steps s204 and s205). This feature of the present invention is not disclosed in any one of the cited Shirakawa, Hirabayashi, or Yamauchi patents which were applied as rejecting references against Claims 1, 18, and 21. For example, in the Office Action, it is stated that "Shirakawa fails to teach recording a predetermined value in place of the end address", and the cited Hirabayashi patent is relied upon for its disclosure in Fig. 2 to record a time code associated with a sector address, into a table recorded in a TOC area (column 3, lines 23-25). The Examiner refers to this time code as a predetermined value of start and end addresses of image data. However, amended independent Claims 1, 18, and 21 now clearly require that the predetermined value is irrespective of recording addresses where image data are recorded. Therefore, Hirabayashi also fails to teach the predetermined value of the present invention. The Yamauchi patent also fails to provide such disclosures.

Independent Claims 7, 14, 19 and 22 have been amended to clearly require that a recording apparatus of the present invention is arranged so as to control recording, on

a disk-shaped recording medium, management data including recording start address information of image data and flag data indicating that the stopping of recording of the image data by a recording stop instruction is not performed, in accordance with a recording instruction. This feature of the present invention is not disclosed in either of the cited references to Shirakawa and Mukawa which were relied upon in rejecting those claims. In addition, in the cited Mukawa patent, a user cannot remove a disk from a recording apparatus until UTOC data (flag) stored in a SRAM is copied onto the disk, thereby preventing the user from using another disk to record or reproduce information. In the present invention, however, the flag is recorded onto the disk and therefore allows the user to remove the disk from the recording apparatus and use another disk.

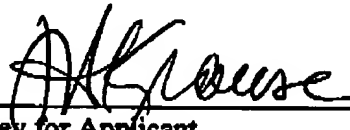
Finally, independent Claims 15, 20, and 23 have been amended to clearly require that a recording apparatus of the present invention is arranged so as to record first management data including recording stop address information of an image data train, on a recording every time one image data group is recorded; to record on the recording medium second management data including a flag indicating that recording of the image data train was not stopped normally; and, to detect the flag included in the second management data on the recording medium to record the recording stop address included in the first management data into the second management data (e.g., Fig. 8). This feature of the present invention is not disclosed in the cited Nakamura patent, notwithstanding that Nakamura may teach to record cell addresses and VOB addresses on a disk (Figs. 16 and 22). As discussed above, each of the other references, Shirakawa, Hirabayashi, and Mukawa, also fail to disclose this feature of the present invention, in particular, the

rewriting means functioning together with the control means and detecting means as recited in the amended independent Claims 15, 20, and 23.

For these various reasons it is believed that all of the claims as now presented are allowable, wherefore the issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance is solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicant

John A. Krause

Registration No. 24,613

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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